

## Message Text

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11 L  
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 NEA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 EB-04 NIC-01 SAJ-01 /070 W  
----- 034509

R 300515Z OCT 74  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2689  
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USLO PEKING  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L 11808

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, CH, IN  
SUBJECT: CONTINUED CHINESE MEDIA ATTACKS ON INDIA

REF: HONG KONG 11725

SUMMARY: ON OCTOBER 21 AND 27, NCNA CARRIED LONG ARTICLES  
ATTACKING INDIA SPECIFICALLY ON ITS AGGRESSION AGAINST  
SIKKIM AND MORE GENERALLY ALONG THE THEME OF INDIAN EXPAN-  
SIONIST AIMS IN SOUTH ASIA AND THE SOLID BACKING INDIA RE-  
CEIVES IN THIS REGARD FROM THE SOVIETS. THE FIRST ARTICLE  
ATTACKED MRS. GANDHI BY NAME WHILE THE SECOND LARGELY PLAYS  
ON THE FEARS OF INDIA'S SMALLER NEIGHBORS CONCERNING INDIAN  
INTENTIONS. SINCE THE SECOND ARTICLE WAS RELEASED WHILE  
SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS IN NEW DELHI, IT APPARENTLY WAS  
MEANT TO SERVE ALSO AS AN INDICATION TO THE US OF  
CHINA'S CURRENT DISPLEASURE WITH INDIAN ACTIONS. END  
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SUMMARY.

1. AN OCTOBER 21 NCNA ARTICLE COMMENTED ON PRIME MINISTER GANDHI'S OCTOBER 16 STATEMENT THAT SIKKIM HAD ALWAYS BEEN A PART OF INDIA BY NOTING THAT MRS. GANDHI "NOT LONG AGO" HAD STATED THAT INDIA RESPECTED SIKKIM'S "INDIVIDUALITY." THIS CONTRADICTION, ACCORDING TO NCNA, DEMONSTRATED MRS. GANDHI'S "FABRICATION OF HISTORY." THE ARTICLE CLAIMED INDIA HAD REPLACED BRITAIN AS THE COLONIAL RULER OF SIKKIM FOR THE PAST 27 YEARS AND THAT ONLY THE SOVIETS SUPPORTED THE INDIAN EXPANSIONISTS.
  2. IN AN OCTOBER 27 ARTICLE, NCNA AVOIDED MENTIONING MRS. GANDHI BY NAME BUT PRESENTED THE CHINESE VERSION OF INDIAN AGGRESSION AND EXPANSION WITH THE "SUPPORT AND CONNIVANCE OF SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM." INDICATING THAT THERE IS CONSIDERABLE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN INDIA'S PROFESSION OF NON-INTERFERENCE AND OF SEEKING FRIENDLY TIES WITH HER NEIGHBORS AND HER ACTS IN SOUTH ASIA, THE ARTICLE CLAIMED THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT " HAS BEEN RIDING ROUGHSHOD OVER THE SOUTH ASIAN SUBCONTINENT," AS PROOF OF THIS CHARGE, NCNA REFERRED TO A) "INDIAN ARMED AGGRESSION TO DISMEMBER PAKISTAN" IN 1971 AND ITS CONTINUING "SCHEMING TO FORCIBLY ANNEX INDIA-OCCUPIED KASHMIR;" B) INDIAN SUPPORT TO THE NEPALI CONGRESS PARTY LEADERS EXILED IN INDIA; C) INDIA'S CONTROL OF BHUTAN'S DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS; D) INDIAN CONTROL OF NEPAL'S EXTERNAL TRADE; E) SMUGGLING OF BADLY-NEEDED FOOD FROM BANGLADESH INTO INDIA; AND F) INDIAN CONNIVANCE WITH "CHINESE TIBETAN REBELS" TO ASSASSINATE THE BHUTANESE KING.
  3. NCNA ALSO CHARGED THAT, " IN SPITE OF SERIOUS DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND THE EXTREME POVERTY OF THE PEOPLE," THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT SPENDS 21 PER CENT OF ITS BUDGET ON ARMAMENTS. IN THIS CONTEXT, NCNA CLAIMED THAT INDIA'S NUCLEAR TEST AND SUBSEQUENT INDIAN STATEMENTS ON HAVING THE CAPABILITY TO MANUFACTURE NUCLEAR DELIVERY VEHICLES CONSTITUTED WHAT HER SOUTH ASIAN NEIGHBORS CONSIDERED NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL AND THREAT.
  4. AS USUAL, NCNA PORTRAYED INDIAN EXPANSIONISM AS BEING CONFIDENTIAL
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- "INSPIRED, ENCOURAGED, AND SUPPORTED BY THE SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISTS" AND CLAIMED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD BEEN "EVEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED" IN THESE ACTIONS.
5. THE ARTICLE DID NOT INDICATE THAT THE PRC ITSELF WILL TAKE ANY MOVES TO COUNTERACT INDIAN AGGRESSION, CONCLUDING WITH THE PREDICTION THAT THE "SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLE WILL NOT LET THE INDIAN EXPANSIONISTS AND THEIR BACKERS DO WHAT THEY

LIKE."

6. IN A RELATED ARTICLE OCTOBER 27, NCNA CONDEMNED THE ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF BANGLADESH BY INDIA THROUGH "PLUNDERING, SMUGGLING, AND UNEQUAL TRADE." NCNA CHARGED THAT BANGLADESH JUTE MILLS HAD BEEN "LOOTED" BY INDIAN TROOPS, TONS OF RICE WERE BEING SMUGGLED INTO INDIA, AND AND BANGLADESH SUPPLIED INDIA WITH VALUABLE PRIMARY GOODS IN EXCHANGE FOR "COMMODITIES OF DOUBTFUL QUALITY, LESSER UTILITY AND UNECONOMIC PRICES."

7. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NEITHER OF THESE ARTICLES HAS THE AUTHORITY OF THE PRC FOREIGN MINISTRY SEPTEMBER 11 STATEMENT CONDEMNING INDIA "ANNEXATION OF SIKKIM" (WR 38), THE ARTICLES, AND PARTICULARLY THE PERSONAL ATTACK ON MRS. GANDHI'S VERACITY, ARE NOT CALCULATED TO ASSUAGE INDIAN SENTIMENTS TOWARD CHINA. THE STATEMENTS INDICATE THAT THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP BELIEVES THAT ANY WARMING IN SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY SET BACK BY THE INDIAN MOVES ON SIKKIM AND THAT THE PRC'S MOST USEFUL IMMEDIATE POLICY WILL BE TO PLAY ON THE FEARS OF INDIA'S NEIGHBORS, ALL OF WHOM HAVE ALSO REACTED TO SOME DEGREE AGAINST THE SIKKIM ACTION. THE LATEST NCNA ARTICLE WAS ALSO RELEASED ON THE DAY SECRETARY KISSINGER ARRIVED IN NEW DELHI AND WAS APPARENTLY TIMED TO INDICATE TO THE US CHINA'S CURRENT DISPLEASURE WITH INDIAN ACTIONS. NCNA HAS NOT YET MENTIONED, HOWEVER, THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO INDIA AND HAS MENTIONED HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW ONLY IN SEVERAL ARTICLES DEALING WITH US AND SOVIET ICBM TESTING.

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